

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

1. Rejection of Claims 1-8 Under 35 USC §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,523,696 (Saito) and 6,498,939 (Thomas)

This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that neither the Saito patent nor the Thomas patent discloses or suggests, whether considered individually or in any reasonable combination, a wireless information home appliance system having a center controller which, when started:

- automatically registers every information home applicant from which it receives a signal to the network;
- registers a PIN of any newly installed appliances; and
- checks for reactions from existing appliances and records the PINs of appliances that do not react so as to avoid sending inquiries and commands thereto.

Instead of a center controller for multiple wireless home appliances, the Saito patent discloses a control device for multiple networks, in order to realize a uniform service providing environment that is independent of a particular network protocol. Saito does not disclose or suggest any sort of wireless network, much less one that connects a center controller to multiple wireless home appliances, as claimed, and further does not suggest either registration of the home appliances to the network by means of PINs, or checking for a reaction from the appliances.

According to the Examiner, Fig. 19 of Saito teaches the claimed PIN registration. However, Fig. 19 actually shows URL/port assignments and “attribute replies” rather than PINs of the type claimed (see col. 27, lines 19 *et seq.*).

These deficiencies are not made up for by the Thomas patent, which discloses an antenna network system made up of a server including a transmitter and antenna; a client including a

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receiver and a steerable antenna; and a control path independently operable of the antenna for communicating control data between the server and the client. There is no suggestion of including a center control of the type claimed, which registers appliances to the network by means of PINs, which checks for new installations, and which checks for reactions from existing installations upon start-up.

Since neither the Saito patent nor the Thomas patent discloses or suggests these positively claimed features, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 USC §103(a) is respectfully requested.

2. Rejection of Claims 9-12 Under 35 USC §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,523,696 (Saito), 6,498,939 (Thomas), and 6,795,688 (Plasson)

This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that the Plasson patent, like the Saito and Thomas patents, fails to disclose or suggest a wireless information home appliance system having a center controller which, when started, automatically registers every information home applicant from which it receives a signal to the network; registers a PIN of any newly installed appliances; and checks for reactions from existing appliances and records the PINs of appliances that do not react so as to avoid sending inquiries and commands thereto.

Instead, the Plasson patent is directed to a method of dynamically configuring a wireless device based on *location* with an attribute corresponding to a characteristic of the device, by having the device receive an attribute setting corresponding to a characteristic of the device and implement a corresponding configuration state by activating a corresponding device configuration. Plasson neither discloses nor even remotely suggests the center controller functions recited in claim 1, and therefore withdrawal of the rejection of claims 9-12 under 35 USC §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Urcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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